excellent good word before it was ill sorted * : therefore captains had need look to it.

Pray thee, go down, good ancient.

Hark thee hither, mistress Doll.

FIST. Not I: tell thee what, corporal Bardolph;—I could tear her:—I'll be revenged on her.

PAGE. Pray thee go down.

FIST. I'll see her damned first;—to Pluto's damned lake, to the infernal deep, with Erebus -f~ and tortures vile also [6]. Hold hook and line[7], say I.

* Folio reads only, *mill maize the word captain odious,*

t Folio, *where Erelus.*

must shut up your shop, and leave your *occupying.*'" This is said to a bawd. HENDERSON.

Barnabe Rych, in his Roome for a Gentleman, 1609, complains of " a number of counterfeit souldiers that will be called captaines : " and says of them, " these be they that are a slander and disgrace to the Art Militari: for there is no greater incivility, no baser disorder, nor more shamefull misdemeanor, than is used by those counterfeit souldiers that do march under the title of captames." BOSWELL.

[6] I'll see her DAMNED first;—to Pluto's DAMNED lake, to the infernal DEEP, with EREBUS and TORTURES vile also.] These words, I believe, were intended to allude to the following passage in an old play called the Battel of Alcazar, 1594?, from which Pistol afterwards quotes a line (see p. 87, n. 6) :

* You dastards of the night and *Erebus,*
* Fiends^ fairies, hags, that fight in beds of steel,
* Range through this army with your iron whips;—
[e] Descend and take to thy *tormenting hell*
[f] The mangled body of that traitor king,—
[4] Then let the earth discover to his ghost
[i] Such *tortures* as usurpers feel below,—
[j] *Damrid* let him be, *damrid* and condemn'd to bear
[k] All torments, *tortures,* pains and plagues of hell."

MALONE.

[7] Hold hook and line,] These words are introduced in ridicule, by Ben Jonson, in The Case is Alter'd, 1609. Of absurd and fustian passages from many plays, in which Shakspeare had been a performer, I have always supposed no small part of Pistol's character to be composed: and the

pieces themselves being now irretrievably lost, the humour of his allusion is not a little obscured.

Let me add, however, that in the frontispiece to an ancient b[illegible] 1. ballad, entitled The Royal Recreation of Joviall Anglers,